

Mission Newsletter



FAITH MISSION

July - August 2010

Number 87

*We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.
(II Pet. 1:19)*

In the previous verses, Peter was assuring the people that the truth he and the others preached to them was not founded on cunningly devised fables but on the power and Word of God. Peter said their preaching was founded on a “more sure word of prophecy” - the Scriptures, the written Word of God and that to take heed and to follow God's word was to do well.

We should do everything we can to adhere to the Word of God. We can liken it to a light that shines in a dark place. If we were in a dark tunnel or cave and a light suddenly appeared at the far end, we would follow the light, run toward it, and never lose sight of it. Without the Word of God, we live in a dark world, and we barely find our way. But when the Lord speaks His Word into our hearts, suddenly it is like a light turns on and we can see. The closer we get to the Lord and the more we study and apply His Word in our everyday lives and situations, the more clearly we see.

The world is a dark and foreboding place, and sometimes we lose heart. Again, the Word of God can lighten our spirits and give us a song.

Until Jesus comes back for His church, the world needs a light. Of course, Jesus is the Light: *“That [Jesus] was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world”* (John 1:9).

But Jesus said to us: *“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”* (Matt. 5:14-16).

Christ is the living Word of God: *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”* (John 1:1). We must allow Him to shine forth from our hearts and lives that we may be examples of righteousness in the midst of a reckless and evil generation. ☞



Camp Reports from the Carpathian Region

Greetings, to all donors and all Faith Mission coworkers! You all participate in spreading the Gospel up to the ends of the earth. That helps to save lost souls in the Carpathians of Ukraine too.



We had several camps already this summer. We have children from non-Christian families. First, we get them acquainted with the Bible, we read interesting stories which help the children to have a different view of life and surrounding world.

Our Christian camps are not just about having fun for 2-3 weeks of summer. It's a lot of preparation work several months before they actually start. We teach camp staff, leaders. We also need to find kitchen workers, buying all needed equipment, food, cleaning and washing the rooms, etc. Also we personally visit the families that are going to send their children to our camps. We do a lot of climbing up the

hills and mountains. We meet many people as we trek up and down the mountain paths.

Although most of our workers and helpers are volunteers, they have to spend a lot of their own money and time as they leave their work, some of them have to pay other people to work for them, some may take their vacation in order to work in the camp. Plus they pay for the trip to the mountains and back home after the camp.

Our camp ministry was very special this year. It's special because of weather – it rained everyday – just a few days with no rain. Sometimes it seemed that the sky was wide open. Probably you know from the news that Western Ukraine suffered from flood again. But God took care of our children from traumas and accidents. We reached the main goal we had set - to show them God's love through the Bible stories. Because of the special attitude of all camp volunteers, the children will not forget the time spent in the camps.

We thank God for you, our dear friends from Canada. It's because of your generosity that our camps have been possible all these years. It's our common ministry despite the distance and time difference. All children are grateful for your donations and help. May God bless you and your families. Please, pray for this important ministry and the children that will spend some precious time in the camps.

We had four camps already, so we had four different teams in different villages: Staische, Dovgopole (2 camps) and Zelene. There were 210 children and 40 staff members, all together there were 250 people.

This year we invited Khmelnitskiy Bible Institute to help us with the children. They came from Kharkiv, Kyiv, Kremenchug and Volyn. The institute paid for their tickets and they were a great blessing to us because we didn't have enough local volunteers.

Surely, as always, there were some difficulties. Half of the children are new comers and half of them spent a week in a camp last year. They all came from different families with different backgrounds and education. That all tends to have some problems in communication. The main thing is that after the camp is over the children are completely different as witnessed by their parents and relatives.

Usually we ask children about their life and what they do in their free time. 80% of the children say they drink alcohol. This scares us.

We had ten 19 year olds in our first camp. It's more difficult to work with grown-ups but at the end of the camp many of them prayed and asked forgiveness for their past

life.

Every day we had Bible classes, music class for singing and sport games.



We can't finish a camp without tears. All the children become friends and they don't want to go home to their regular life. We all have limits as for time and resources. We are pleased that we will have more children than in the previous years.

I met one of the moms the next day after our camp was over. She told me she hardly recognized her daughter after our camp. One night before going to bed the daughter told everybody to get up and pray because one can't sleep peacefully without a night prayer. The mother said she was so ashamed she didn't teach her children to pray before, as she has 5 children and brings them up without a father.

A grandma called me and said she saw a big change in the life of her 15-year old grandson. She said she would like to get him out of the worldly life but she never went to any church and now he is a good testimony.

Evangelizing in the camps is one of the most effective ways of reaching the local people. Young and old folks get influenced by this ministry. Sure, young people are more open and teachable.

We will have two more camps and a baptism in July.

God bless you all!

Peter, Ukrainian Carpathians.

A letter from a young lady (leader or teacher) who worked in our camps.

Time spent in the Carpathians was a real blessing to me. I was convinced that one can't have a joy without sharing it with others. After seeing the openness of children's hearts to the Word of God I wanted to get to know Him more, His power and His love to us. But the main thing was to get the truth about Jesus to children.

The first camp I came to as a teacher was a full time camp. We lived with children, played games and sang songs, read the Bible before going to bed. After each Bible class in the morning children had to write out the stories for us in their own words. It was interesting to read their essays. We could clearly see how well we held the class, whether the children understood the message in the story or not.

At the music class we learned new Christian songs. Our

hearts were filled with joy that the children want to do good things, good teaching. In the evening we had services where children could sing and read Christian poems.

Every day was different. One day everybody was trying to be polite all the time. Those who were the most successful got a prize. Every camper could volunteer himself and participate.

By listening to their bedtime prayers we could hear the real attitude of every child toward God. Those who had been in our camps last year were bolder while praying, the others didn't know what to say. But by the end of the week they all learned how to pray.

On the last day we had a service and there was an invitation to get saved. Fourteen children came out and asked forgiveness. Many of them were crying tears of joy. Those were the most precious moments when a child wants to become free and have forgiveness.

I thank God for the friends who support this camp ministry. The children are worth investing our time, health and money as this is the time when their personality is being formed. It is so good that they learn the basic truths from the Word of God while they are young.

God also allowed me to participate in another camp in the village of Zelene. We had a day-time camp. God showed His mercy to us every day. When we were planning and went on the journey to the mountains, as soon as we came back a heavy rain started. It is so good to believe in the Almighty God. We had a wonderful time together in communication and discussion. Children asked many interesting questions about God, Heaven and hell.

At the end of the camp the children got pictures and toys. They didn't want to go home. We all became friends and got used to each other.

May God let them come to Him in repentance sooner or later in order that we may all meet in heaven!

Anna Shmytol, Kremenchug, Ukraine ☞

Hey! Christmas in July!

Yes, it's a great time to pick up good deals on Back-to-School Sales and start packing Gift Boxes! Take full advantage!

1. Find an empty shoebox or any box of this approximate size.
2. "Fill" the box with mittens, socks, underwear, school supplies, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, and small gifts or small toys (Please, no war toys or items that might easily break, leak, melt or spoil.). Add a Christmas card, note or picture of yourself, if you would like.

(You may think they won't respond anyhow but we have had letters that came from those children that received their gift box).

Indicate on the outside of the box top whether the gift is for a boy or a girl and the appropriate age category: 5-8, 9-12, 13-16.

3. Place a rubber band around the box to hold the lid in place.
4. Deliver the box(es) to Faith Mission, 500 Cargill Road in Winkler.
5. Above all, pray that God will touch the life of every child who receives a gift box.
6. Please have the Gift Boxes at Faith Mission in Winkler by October 1st.

More details are available if you call to the Faith Mission Office on Tuesday or Thursday.

The following true story is the second in a series of short stories taken from the book, "Voices in the Wilderness" published by Advancing Native Missions in Charlottesville, Virginia. Advancing Native Missions has granted us full permission to re-print the stories in our Mission Newsletter.

Hiding Place - Peru

He suddenly awoke from his dream, frightened and restless. Was it simply a nightmare, or was it a warning from the Lord?

It had been a wonderful convention so far. Over 200 Quechua Indians had gathered for the annual church assembly in the town of Villa Rica. The worship was uplifting; the preaching, life-changing.

As the first day ended, the believers left filled with joy, eagerly anticipating the next day. No one seemed overly concerned that the

Project "Sprinter"

Faith Mission's latest project is to provide a used Mercedes Sprinter van for our friends, Vitalig & Natasha near Kharkiv, Ukraine. We met Natasha and her family when we visited Ukraine in November of 2008. Natasha had adopted 9 children before she married Vitalig in July of 2008. Faith Mission, together with Missionswerk FriedensBote in Germany had an opportunity to purchase the van from a family that recently moved to Winkler, Manitoba. The unit will be shipped to Ukraine and should provide suitable and reliable transportation for the young family.

If you would like to support this project, please mark your donation for the "Sprinter" project. Maybe you would like to make this a group project for your Family, Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, or youth group.



We are also continuing with the "Flour Mill" project we mentioned in our May \ June Newsletter. The Mill is up and running. Further funds will be used to buy wheat.

All donations are appreciated! Thank-You! ☞

convention was in a terrorist-controlled area. Delegates slept in the homes of local church members, while a dozen ministers retired in the home of the local pastor.

During the night one of them was awakened by a vivid dream: he saw the pastor's house completely encircled by terrorists. Unable to go back to sleep, he felt a prompting in his spirit to get everyone out of the house. He woke up the other pastors and shared his dream with them.

After a time of prayer the leader said, "I believe God wants us to leave this place." The men left the house and climbed a hill overlooking the town. All this time, they were still unaware of the exact reason why they were leaving the midnight comfort of their beds.

Suddenly from their hilltop perch they saw a group of armed men approaching the pastor's house. The beams of their flashlights pierced the night darkness. They surrounded the house and broke down the door. Inside they found the rooms empty, as the targeted Christians had been safely hidden away by the Lord. The terrorists angrily stormed off into the night, having failed to accomplish their mission.

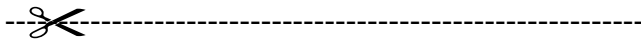
The watching pastors shuddered, knowing that if the Holy Spirit had not awakened them, all of them would have been killed. From their hilltop hideout they gave thanks to their God and Defender.

Psalms 32:7 Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

How many times have you delivered me from danger without my knowing it, Lord?

Faith Mission (FriedensBote)

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- Please add my name to your mailing list.
- Please change my address as indicated below.

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Office Hours



Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Clothing sorting & baling:

Thursday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Clothing may also be dropped off in the small white trailer at the south end of the warehouse building. This trailer is open 24 hours a day, emptied on a regular basis, however, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange delivery.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!

Volunteers Welcome!

If your Youth Group, Bible Study group, or Ladies' Sewing Circle would like to volunteer for an afternoon or evening (Monday-Saturday), please contact the office to make arrangements.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. solicits your gifts for the purpose identified in this appeal. However, if the project for which the gifts are received has been fully funded or cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the charity, the board reserves the right to use such funds for other similar projects.

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Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. is a nonprofit, registered charitable organization based in Winkler, Manitoba. Faith Mission was incorporated on May the 16th, 1994 in the Province of Manitoba

Purpose of Faith Mission

- to provide humanitarian and spiritual aid to the people of former Communist communities of the world.
- to call others to pray for the suffering people in the world.
- to provide information about the people of the former Communist communities to fellow Christians in North America.

The **Faith Mission Newsletter** is printed bimonthly and mailed at no cost to those people who have supported us in the past or to those who request information about Faith Mission.

Banking Information - Access Credit Union
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